

Claims

1. Cotton swab for cosmetic or medical purposes or for body care, comprising a stick having a fiber material forming a cotton head at at least one end of the stick, characterized in that the fiber material comprises micro staple fibers of at least 7mm in length.
2. Cotton swab according to claim 1, characterized in that the micro staple fibers are polyester (PES) or viscose fibers.
3. Cotton swab according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the portion of micro staple fibers compared to the mass of the fiber material is 3 to 50 weight %, in particular, 5 to 30 weight %, and preferably 5 to 20 weight %.
4. Cotton swab according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the fiber material additionally comprises up to 97 weight %, in particular 60 to 97 weight % and preferably 70 to 95 weight % of cotton fibers.
5. Cotton swab according to claim 4, characterized in that the cotton fibers are cotton noils.
6. Cotton swab according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the fiber material comprises thermally meltable binding fibers.

7. Cotton swab according to claim 6, characterized in that the portion of thermally meltable binding fibers compared to the mass of the fiber material is 5 to 20 weight %, in particular 5 to 15 weight %.
8. Cotton swab according to claim 6 or 7, characterized in that the thermally meltable binding fibers are multi-component fibers, in particular bi-component fibers.
9. Cotton swab according to claim 8, characterized in that the multi-component fibers have a fiber thickness of 1.3 to 10 dtex, in particular 1.3 to 3 dtex.
10. Cotton swab according to claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the multi-component fibers have a fiber length of 3 to 60 mm.
11. Cotton swab according to any one of the claims 6 through 10, characterized in that the binding fibers are copolyester (CO-PES) / polyester (PES) bi-component fibers.
12. Cotton swab according to any one of the claims 8 through 11, characterized in that the melting point of the thermally meltable binding fibers or the low melting component of the multi-component fibers is lower than the melting point of the micro staple fibers.
13. Cotton swab according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the removal resistance of the fiber material from the free end of the stick, measured according to the presently stated removal test, is larger than 30N, preferably larger than 40N.
14. Cotton swab according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the sinking duration of the fiber material in the

aqueous solution according to the presently described sinking duration test is at least 3 sec., preferably at least 3.4 sec., particularly preferred at least 4 sec. and with particular preference at least 4.5.

15. Cotton swab according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the water retaining capacity of the fiber material in accordance with the herein described absorption capacity test is at least 21 g/g, in particular, at least 23 g/g (g liquid per g fiber material).
16. Cotton swab according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the fiber material contains a softener.
17. Cotton swab according to any one of the preceding claims, whose fiber material forming the cotton head is produced from a fiber fleece or a fiber fleece strip having a specific weight of 0.5 to 8 g/m, in particular, 1 to 2 g/m.
18. Cotton swab according to claim 17, characterized in that the fiber fleece or the fiber fleece strip is a card fleece which is oriented in the machine direction.